

molding a layer about said core component at conditions suitable to adhere said layer to said core component.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said layer is a cover layer.

21. The method of claim 19 wherein said layer is an intermediate layer disposed between said core component and a cover layer.

22. A method of producing a golf ball including a silicone material, said method comprising:

providing a core component;

5 disposing said core component in a mold adapted for forming at least one of a golf ball and a golf ball component;

molding a silicone material about said core component to form an intermediate layer on said core component; and

forming a cover layer on said intermediate layer to thereby form said golf ball.

23. A method of producing a golf ball, said method comprising:

preparing a silicone material suitable for use in golf ball by combining at least one silicone elastomer and silicone elastomer precursor with an effective amount of a reinforcing material;

5 forming a golf ball core comprising said silicone material; and

molding a layer about said golf ball core.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein said layer is an outer cover layer.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein said layer is an intermediate layer disposed between said golf ball core and a cover layer.

26. The method of claim 23 wherein said reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of silica, alumina, zirconia, calcium carbonate, clay, silicates,

aluminates, fibrous fillers, zinc oxide, iron oxide, titanium dioxide and combinations thereof.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein said reinforcing material is silica.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein said silica has a specific surface area of from about 20 to about 400 m²/g.

29. A method of producing a golf ball comprising:
providing a golf ball core component;
placing said golf ball core component in a mold;
preparing a silicone material by combining at least one silicone elastomer
5 and silicone elastomer precursor with an effective amount of a reinforcing material; and
molding said silicone material about said golf ball core component.

30. The method of claim 29 further comprising:
molding a cover layer on said silicone material.

31. The method of claim 29 wherein said reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of silica, alumina, zirconia, calcium carbonate, clay, silicates, aluminates, fibrous fillers, zinc oxide, iron oxide, titanium dioxide and combinations thereof.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein said reinforcing material is silica.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein said silica has a specific surface area of from about 20 to about 400 m²/g.

34. A method of preparing a golf ball comprising:
providing a golf ball core;
positioning said golf ball core in a mold;

5 providing at least one room temperature vulcanizing (RTV) silicone elastomer;

forming a layer about said golf ball core by encapsulating said golf ball core with said silicone elastomer.

35. The method of claim 34 wherein said room temperature vulcanizing (RTV) silicone elastomer is a one-component RTV silicone rubber.

36. The method of claim 34 wherein said room temperature vulcanizing (RTV) silicone elastomer is a two-component RTV silicone rubber.

37. The method of claim 36 further comprising:
curing the layer formed about said golf ball core by heating to a temperature of from about 50°C to about 150°C.

38. The method of claim 34 further comprising:
curing the layer formed about said golf ball core by exposing said layer to gamma or high energy electron radiation.

39. The method of claim 34 wherein said layer is formed by molding at a temperature of from about 100°C to about 180°C, and a pressure of from about 800 psi to about 1500 psi.

40. A method of producing a golf ball, said method comprising:
preparing a silicone material for use in said golf ball by combining a silicone resin with a suitable catalyst;
forming a golf ball core that includes said silicone material; and
5 molding a layer about said golf ball core.

41. The method of claim 40 further comprising:
molding a cover layer on said layer molded about said golf ball core.

42. A method of producing a golf ball, said method comprising:
providing a golf ball core;
placing said golf ball core in a mold;
preparing a silicone material for use in said golf ball by combining a
5 silicone elastomer with a suitable catalyst; and
forming a layer of said silicone material about said golf ball core.
43. The method of claim 42 further comprising:
molding a cover layer on said layer of silicone material.

Respectfully Submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



Richard M. Klein
Reg. No. 33,000
Mark E. Bandy
Reg. No. 35,788
1100 Superior Avenue, Suite 700
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518
(216) 861-5582

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